



The Monthly Newsletter of the Surrey Amateur Radio Club

July—August 2011

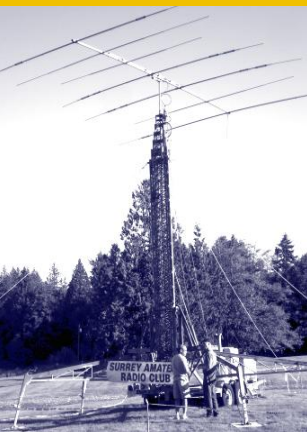
INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

- **Field Day Retrospective**
- **SEPARS Report**
- **Radio-Active**
- **'Net' working**
- **News You Can Use**
- **QRM**
- **Application Notes**
- **Snapshot**
- **President's Comments**



The SARC Communicator is published monthly for members of the Surrey Amateur Radio Club.

SARC maintains a website at www.ve7sar.net that includes club history, meetings, news and other information.



Field Day 2011 Retrospective

Surrey-Langley Field Day: A Success!

Now that Field Day dust has settled, our sleep is fully restored and the de-briefing session has concluded, we can make a few judgments about the success of our FD effort and identify those things that we did right as well as those that we need to do better in order to be a serious competitor. Success requires more than having a good plan, a good site, good equipment, pleasant weather, and roster of willing participants. We had all those things, but were they sufficient?

According to the submitted score, we made a total of 779 contacts, of which 513 were CW, 33 were RTTY and 233 were phone. Since CW and digital contacts count for more than SSB, the total score for contacts was 1325, which we doubled for having portable power to give 2650. Added to this was our bonus points score of 1070 for a grand total of 3720. Not bad, but could we have done better?

Let's first consider the positives. Since food is one of the most important considerations at FD, we must acknowledge that the food was superb. Well-fed operators perform better, no question. Hats off to Paulette VE7VPE and her capable crew of assistants for preparing three delectable meals and keeping us supplied with coffee and snacks throughout the weekend.

There was general agreement that our Grandview Heights FD site was one of the best ever - lots of tall trees for antennas, high elevation for propagation, and ample space for participants' and visitors' parking. In addition, we had a large covered area for food preparation and ample flat areas for the operating tent, visitors' information table, satellite trailer,

GOTA station and the BCAS command vehicle. The central location on a major thoroughfare was advantageous for visitors, yet the setback from the road made it fairly quiet. The only significant weakness of the site was the lack of toilets, resolved by Al Munnik VA7MP, who

was successful in securing use of portables from Super Save at no charge. Al also was able to get us carpeting for the operating tent and a man-lift from United Rentals which came in handy during the antenna work. Thanks also to Kjeld VE7GP for his great suggestion of the Grandview Heights site and to Dan Barnscher of Surrey Fire Services for securing it for our use.

A lot of effort went into adapting SEPARS' GO kits for FD operation. This entailed installation of N1MM on the laptops, proper cabling, con-

(Continued on page 2)



SARC EXECUTIVE FOR 2011-2012

PRESIDENT

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George Merchant VE7QH
(Repeaters)

Bill Little VA7ZBL

Chris Zetner VA7CMZ

WEB MASTER

Hiu Yee VE7YXG

(Continued from page 1)

figuration of radios and software for digital modes as well as setup of spotting software and networking. Thanks to Kelvin VA7KPH for making the GO kits available and to Fred VE7IO and Drew VA7DRW for looking after the equipment and operational requirements. We have Rod VE7AYL to thank for arranging Internet access. To familiarize participants with N1MM software and contesting strategies, Fred also put on an excellent operators' training session early in June.

For the first time ever, the tasks of the planning committee were organized in accordance with the Incident Command System (ICS) under the capable guidance of SEPARS' ICS trainer, John VE7TI. John put ICS concepts to good use with a methodical, structured approach to assigning leader-



the organizers. Two towers and beams for the higher HF bands, a 6 m loop, a VHF/UHF vertical, two HF dipoles and a Vee beam for 160/80/40 not to mention the satellite array - they were all there. SARC's recently-purchased pneumatic "antenna launcher" was a huge success, enabling us to put the wires way up in the trees. Weather?

The gods were definitely smiling on us for 3 days, as not a drop of rain was felt at the site. The new 16 x 20 ft. tent, too, could not have been better. We have Kelvin VA7KPH and Kjeld VE7GP to thank for working with the fabricator to get us a high-quality custom design that fitted our needs perfectly. Thanks also to Rod VE7AYL who arranged for the BCAS Command vehicle to be present, which proved to be a big draw with the public.

Of all those who contributed to FD, there is one person that warrants a special thanks. We are very fortunate that a real pro, Jim Smith VE7FO, consented to work with our team to undertake the propagation and modeling analyses, consult on site layout, prepare operating strategies and assist us with his considerable operating skills. With Jim's input, our FD effort has jumped a whole quantum level.

So given all these pluses, where and how can we improve? Here are just some of the things we should consider as must-dos for next year, based on comments arising from participants' comments and the de-briefing meeting. A longer list of recommendations can be found in de-briefing notes on the SARC Dropbox site.

1. More training is needed for participants in operating procedures, use of radios and software (see below)
2. Experienced "station managers" should be assigned to orchestrate operations by monitoring spots, band openings and antenna deployment and apply this knowledge to best advantage vis-à-vis the skill of operators and modes

(Continued on page 3)



ship and duties so that nothing important was forgotten.

We were blessed with lots of volunteers during the setup and take-down phases, making the job so much easier for

3. Good IF filters for CW and SSB would enhance the ability of the Kenwood radios to minimize strong adjacent signal AGC de-sensing, which was a problem on some bands at busy times
4. Priority should be given to the modes that gain most points, i.e. CW and RTTY using "Run" mode rather than "Search-and-Pounce", so that our CQs get spotted and we can gain the higher productivity of working the pileups
5. Use of hand mics slows the response and should be changed to VOX with boom mic or possibly foot switch
6. We need to ensure that we are properly organized to earn all available bonus points - we missed a couple this year
7. The profile of the GOTA station should be elevated to ensure that equipment, environment and band opportunities are there to encourage beginners, so that they may gain confidence and become skilled operators of future FDs
8. We need to review and optimize the number and placement of the wire antennas so that they are not only as high as possible, but well clear of trees and oriented to best advantage
9. We must Identify and correct the problems experienced in getting digital modes operational on all radios and spots to show on N1MM, and making satellite contacts
10. Consideration should be given to providing a separate tent or shelter close to the operating tent, for social purposes.
11. We need to work on improving media coverage of our event

An Offer we Can't Refuse

Yes, some of our problems were poor band conditions, or equipment or software issues but the single biggest factor which limited our ability to make the contacts was a shortage of experienced operators. Jim Smith VE7FO has graciously offered to help and here is what he has proposed: We need to get commitments as early as Fall 2011 for a roster of 2012 FD operators, then focus on enhancing the skills of this group over the next year. Between now and then this

group should participate in as many contests as possible, under expert coaching. SSB operators could be trained to operate RTTY (and possibly even CW using code readers). Potential Station Managers also need to learn how to utilize a previously prepared Band Plan, spots, and their knowledge of band conditions, station capabilities and operator skills to best allocate resources throughout the operating period. One or more technically-savvy members should be instructed in how to utilize propagation prediction and antenna modeling software as an aid to the planning process. All the foregoing should be embodied into a training plan to bring it all together - recognizing achievement at each level of training.

Under Jim's and Fred's guidance, we can achieve greater success not only at FD but in other contests as well. However, I hasten to add ... this is not just about contesting. The skills involved in contesting are no different from those required by emergency communicators who may be faced with operating radios under chaotic conditions. Similarly, the organizational structure for an operation at an EOC or elsewhere requires a Station Manager. While the duties of an EOC Station Manager are rather different from those required for FD, the fundamentals are the same, namely, maintain an op schedule, be aware of equipment status and propagation conditions, allocate resources to maximize effectiveness of the station.

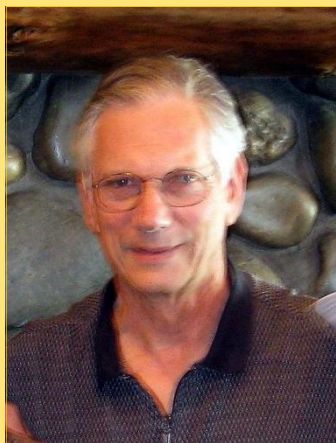
SARC, LARA and SEPARS need to identify those members who wish to take further training, work hard to improve skill levels throughout the year, then aim to be the core group that can double our score next FD. How about it SARC, SEPARS and LARA members?... these sorts of offers don't come around every day. If interested, please send me an email... va7xb@rac.ca

More Field Day photos on pages 10-11



Radio-Active

Susan Eshelman VE7IIE



This issue we have the pleasure of introducing a new member of SARC's Executive - George Merchant VE7QH. Having recently moved to Surrey, George may not be a familiar face to many club members, but he's certainly not new to the Amateur Radio scene in British Columbia.

A licensed ham for 35 years, George and his wife previously lived on Vancouver's

North Shore. George was a founding member of the North Shore ARC in 1987, and has been active in the club ever since.

George first became interested in radio as a teenager, when he got involved in the field of broadcasting. His first real job was in the AM radio. At age 21 he was something of a pioneer in his field, serving as the youngest chief engineer of a TV station. George took charge of all technical aspects of the station, making sure the cameras and transmitters worked properly, and often operating the camera. Later, George headed the engineering staff of a major television station and used his pilot's license to fly to repeater locations and remote broadcast sites.

After 13 years in the business George moved on to other professional challenges, but never gave up his interest in radio. Instead, he pursued his ham license, thus beginning a long love affair with Amateur Radio.

From the start, George had a natural inclination to the social side of the hobby. His interest in fostering a community connection among hams has continued over the years, at the club and at the association level. Consequently when George's technical skills and enthusiasm for the social aspects of Amateur Radio converged, operators across British Columbia got the benefit.

After broadcasting, George got his MBA and began working with computer technology applications for manufacturing info systems, eventually moving to the Lower Mainland. Staying active in the hobby, in 1978 he put up a 2 meter repeater in Burnaby. Although replaced long ago by newer technology, at the time this repeater was one of the few on the Lower Mainland.

George has maintained a great interest in repeaters. As a member of the 2011-12 SARC Executive, VE7QH is listed as the Director focused on Repeaters. SARC is already well along in developing its own repeater program, and George's expertise will undoubtedly be helpful to club members working in that area.

George's dedication to the repeater aspect of Amateur Radio ramped up in 1996, when he took the initiative to start the British Columbia Amateur Radio Coordination Council (BCARCC.org), a province-wide organization he founded when a predecessor effort fell by the wayside. BCARCC serves as a conduit between all clubs in the province, maintaining a database of repeaters and IRLP nodes, and managing frequencies.

George has served for years as the Chief Coordinator for BCARCC, a technical job that lets him work cooperatively with other repeater operators. He continues to assist the North Shore ARC in maintaining their repeater, a unique system with simulcast transmitters and voting receivers.

George and his wife Dolores have enjoyed many international vacations over the years and still continue to travel well into their retirement. Having recently moved into a new strata development here in Surrey, George is dealing with the usual 'antenna issues'. At the moment he's relying on 2 meter and UHF antennas, while he works out a new scheme. In the meantime, he looks forward to being involved in various SARC activities, including his role on this year's Executive.

SULLIVAN COMMUNITY HALL

6306 152ND ST. SURREY

SUNDAY AUGUST 21, 2011

10 AM - 1 PM (9 AM SETUP FOR VENDORS)

AMATEUR RADIO SWAP MEET

SEPARS Report

Kelvin Hall VA7KPH



SEPAR has ramped down for the month of August for meetings and workshops but is ready for any emergency should one occur. As a part of the City of Surrey Fire Services we provide the emergency communication services should

all of the conventional systems go down, and we need to be ready.

Starting in September we will begin the hand's on training for all of the radios at Firehall #1 and in the Grab and Go kits. The training will be part theory and the larger part is the practical application of the theory in the use of the radios. Training will also include set-up and take down of the Grab and Go kits, there is more to this than meets the eye. Use of the radio room at Firehall #1 combined with the Grab and Go kits will give everyone the practical experience that is needed when an actual emergency occurs.

Over the next year SEPAR will be providing educational workshops in elementary schools and local libraries. These workshops are excellent for interacting with young people and their parents and teachers. Morse code seems to be the area of most interest followed closely by Airmail. It is quite rewarding to see the expression on faces when they come to realize that messages can be sent without the internet, cell phones or telephone - "all of this is over that antenna?"

Newton Library Workshop:

The Newton Library is located at 13795 - 70th Ave in the Recreation facility complex.

On Wednesday July 13, 2011 twelve members of SEPARS held a workshop with 30 participants ages 7 to 12 for each session. Parents were welcome and in fact participated with the children during the workshop. The event was planned ahead of time and there was a waiting list for each session so it was a very popular event.

Setup began at 8:30am, with the morning workshop running from 10:00 to 12:00pm. The afternoon workshop began 12:30pm sharp and ran to 2:30pm. Takedown began at 2:30pm and all the SEPARS equipment was then re-stored at fire hall #10 and ready for the next event.

The format for this library workshop was the same as the school project with 5 activity posts plus the Introduction and Videos. The 5 activity posts were: Information, Morse code, Hand held, VHF/IRLP, HF (voice/digital)



Surrey Library produced buttons with the Library and SEPARS logos and these were handed out to all participants at conclusion of workshop.

Feedback

Very good reviews from Newton Library staff and parents. One note was the unusually high attendance of boys at the workshop. Normally they do not see many boys attend these events so this was a big plus for the library.

Newton Library would like us to commit to a workshop every year in (July or August) as they were very pleased with our contribution to the community. The summer day camp leader attending the morning session with her group expressed a desire to return should our workshop be offered in the future. A parent was very adamant on having her children attend and emailed Newton Library for commitment so amateur radio has made a very big hit with both parents and students. A grandfather, who was a Royal Navy submarine personal, thanked Carolyn for providing this learning opportunity for his grandson and this really says it all.

Conclusion

- The pilot workshop with Newton Library was successful.
- SEPARS has been re-invited by Newton Library
- SEPARS is invited to the Fleetwood Library and to Central City Library.

Our operators did an outstanding job with the children and impressed the library staff as well as the attending parents.

Operators were: Fred VE7IO, Don VA7GL, Jay VA7OFH, Walter VE7SM, Alan VA7BIT, John S VE7TI, Paulette VE7VPE, Dixie VA7DIX, Kelvin VA7KPH, Rob VE7CZV, Vince, and Marcy VE7JT

The library coordinators have some suggestions for future workshops that will make them even more interesting and educational. Congratulations to all SEPARS operators who made our first

workshop with Surrey Libraries a resounding success.

SEPAR is always looking for new members that want to volunteer time for the safety of their community and family. If you want to take the challenge and get hand's on training at the same time, please contact me by e-mail at va7kph@separs.net

Have a safe summer and if the opportunity presents itself join our Tuesday night net 1930 hrs on 147.360 tone 110.9

'Net' Working

Internet Resources for Hams

Salt Lake City Remote S-meter

This site features a [Remotely-Controllable Kenwood R-5000](#) 13-Miles North of Salt Lake City. Using your browser you control the receiver. Check your signal and listen to others on remote receivers. Read thousands of pages of ham radio information. Download virus-free radio-related design programs. There is no charge for receiver usage, any of the information, or any downloaded computer programs.

Menus take you to major content sections. Thousands of other pages are buried within. Search from the bottom of any page to find what you are looking for if you don't see it in a menu. This site is updated frequently, so be sure to Bookmark or add it to your Favorites so you can return easily: www.smeter.net

[Ham Radio Search Engine](#) Small ham radio sites with valuable information often are ranked far below well-connected larger sites that have nothing to do with ham radio in major search engine results. Because of that we have created a new Ham Radio Search engine that searches only sites that have information related to ham radio. Your site is probably already in the data-

base. If not, you can submit it to make it easier for others to find.

Converting a computer power supply for the bench

Jumper One, specializing in electronic projects, tutorials and hardware hacking, has produced a video on using old computer PSUs. I have picked these up in the past brand new at surplus stores for as little as \$1 each for parts.

The YouTube description reads:

Small tutorial on Computer ATX Power Supplies. How to use them, how to connect them in series, in parallel. What is 12V rails? Is it possible to connect 12V rails together? ATX connector wiring explained. What is difference between old computer power supplies and new ones?

And finally how to make Lab Bench Power Supply from Computer ATX Power Supply.

Watch [Converting Computer ATX Power Supply](#) to Lab Bench Power Supply.

Check out their 'Jumper One' website too:

<http://jumperone.com/>

News You Can Use

What's Happening in Amateur Radio

Users of Radio Amateurs of Canada Email Alias Service

The callsign@rac.ca is a RAC service that has historically been provided to both members and non-members alike.

On February 3, 2011 the RAC Board of Directors voted to discontinue accepting new callsign@rac.ca aliases for non-members and to close down this service to all non-members of Radio Amateurs of Canada within a reasonable period of time.

RAC believes that if you have found this service to be of value, then you should become a member of Radio Amateurs of Canada. Please turn your browser to www.rac.ca/en/rac/membership/join.php to join RAC and access this service, along with reaping the other benefits that membership will bring to you. Please check this web site www.rac.ca/en/rac/membership/benefits.php to refresh your mind of just some of the benefits of membership.

RAC states that you may wish to become a Maple Leaf Member and join the RAC members that have chosen to support RAC and amateur radio in this fashion. You may

contact our Ottawa office directly to apply for a Maple Leaf Membership.

Non-members will have their access to the email alias service end sometime between September 1st, 2011 and December 31st, 2011. RAC is providing you this grace period so that you have sufficient time to notify all your contacts of any change in your email address.

RAC asks that you please join your fellow Canadian amateur radio operators who are members of the Radio Amateurs of Canada and support the goals of Canada's national organization to support this great hobby and service.

It is understandable that non-members create additional demand upon RAC staff and servers to provide this service however, it seems that the use of the @RAC.ca alias was a service that benefitted all Canadian hams and promoted our identity and that of RAC. It was also an easy method to remember a ham's email address if you knew his/her callsign.

It is unfortunate that the RAC Directors made this decision. -Ed.

QRM

...from the Editor's desk

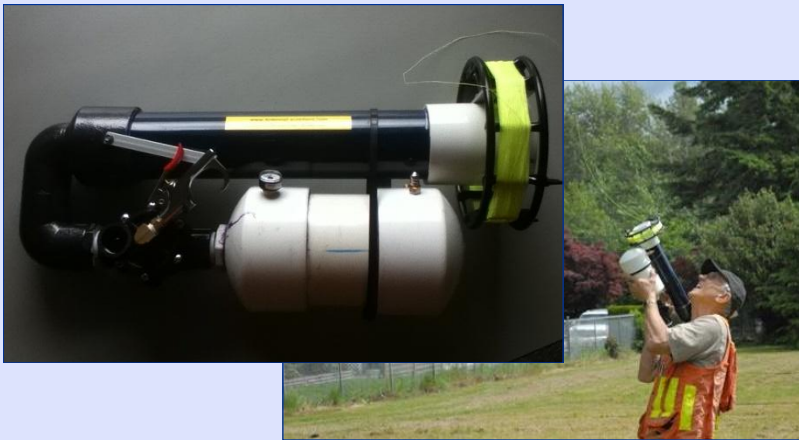


Do you have a photo or bit of club news to share?
Email it to ve7ti@separ.net for inclusion in this column.

Summer is finally here? The weather has not been kind to us so far this summer but there was finally a sunny break and an opportunity to perform some long overdue maintenance on the antennas and feedlines.

The SARC air cannon was put to good use to raise the ends of VE7TI's Carolina Windom from about 30 feet to 60 feet. An immediate difference! Weak North American stations are now more easily heard and a first contact was made with YT1E in Serbia and later with HB9RDE in Switzerland, the latter through a pile-up!

For those not at Field Day to see its debut, the air cannon was built from a kit. It uses mostly plumbing parts and an air compressor at 70 psi to launch a weighted tennis ball attached to a fishing line. Launches of 100 feet are not uncommon and it makes stringing a wire antenna a breeze.



As we ready to publish this issue, Fred Orsetti is off to Puntzi Lake. Fred invites readers to ragchew at 0730 each morning at 3.725Mhz LSB. Fred will be on the air a fair bit from his RV working various nets.

Remembering my first receiver

The Trio 9R-59 Communications Receiver was a product of the 1960s, manufactured by the Trio Corporation of Tokyo Japan. It was also marketed as the Kenwood Lafayette HE-30 with the same innards but slightly different case.

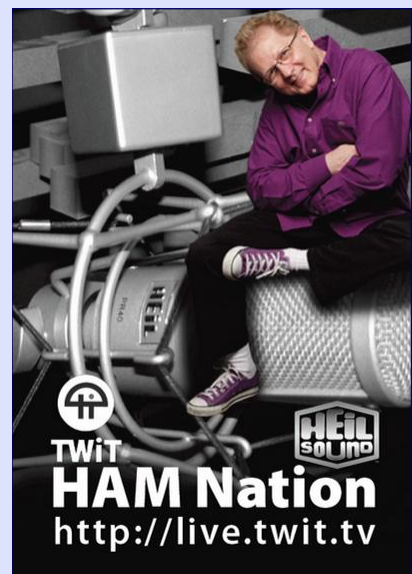


I can remember spending hours listening to this receiver in my early teens, often way past my bedtime, tuning in Radio Nederland, Radio Moscow, BBC World and listening to various hams working the HF bands. Being a tube type unit, it radiated both heat and a pleasant soft glow.

The faceplate was heavy glass printed on the inside with band markings. The glass became foggy after a few years so I decided to clean it. Unfortunately all the markings washed off in the process. Fortunately Lafayette was able to supply a replacement, although I remember it was rather expensive.

This receiver lasted me well into my twenties but was eventually discarded and not replaced until I purchased my first HF transceiver, a Kenwood TS-450S that still occupies a spot in my shack today.

I still see the Trio occasionally on eBay... makes me wish I had the old one back.



Application Notes

Gary Skett VE7AS



Anyone use a field strength meter anymore? It's kind-of like a radiometer for RF energy. Remember the radiometer? It's those little black and white squares that spin inside a glass ball when light shines at it... the brighter [or hotter] the light, the faster it spins.... Cool "instrument" from the 1870's.

Well a field strength meter is sort of like that, in that in its heyday, it was used by Hams and CB'ers to measure the transmitted signal strength of any antenna -- from a distance usually 1, 3, or 30 metres or whatever measured distance you had. As long as the meter was "calibrated", one could set up the antenna, mount a FS meter X number of feet or metres away, pump 1, 5, 10 or 100 watts out of it and measure the "strength" of the RF field at that measured distance. It was simple, you could tune for maximum meter deflection... usually meant your SWR was at its lowest... an ok tool if you didn't have a sophisticated watt meter or new-fangled SWR bridge.

Today, it's can be used by the Ham antenna experimenter to measure the gain of the antenna - in RF volts or Db or whatever scale you had labeled on your meter... even S-units. A sensitive FS meter can pick up low power bugs, or any source of RF energy - guess what those ghost hunters use? More useful if you spent big dollars and put a tuned circuit, attenuators or a pre-amp in the circuit, and of course lots of LEDs.

But of course, good RF meters are expensive and somewhat hard to find... not many at the swap meets these days... and they are usually combined with other types of measuring devices, watt or SWR meters... thus more money than the typical cheap Ham wants to dish out.

Solution, make your own!! OMG! What a concept! A simple FS meter is the simplest thing to make and is good enough to see if the antenna under test is radiating more power than your old ground plane, old mobile vertical or just radiating at all in a particular direction or in all directions.

Here is what you need:

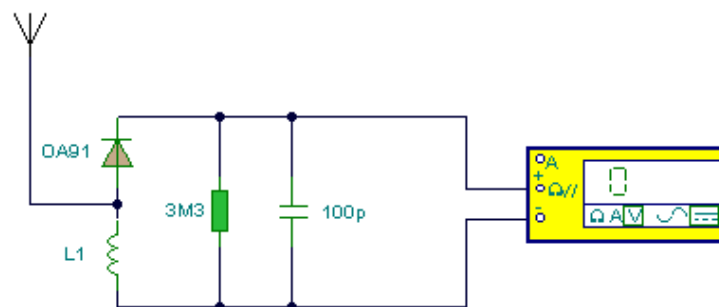
1. A digital voltmeter with a dc millivolt scale - every Ham should have a few in their shack.
2. A Germanium diode, just about any one, as long as it's Germanium, like 1N34, 1N270, 1N914 or 1N100. The best one, a non-North American standard... the super

sensitive OA91 from down under or Europe/UK - Great for your crystal radio project too.

3. A 3.3M Ω 1% resistor, 1/8 or 1/4 watt.
4. A 100 picofarad capacitor
5. And a hand-made inductor [L₁] of 7 turns on a 1/4 inch coil form with a ferrite slug (some experimentation required to cover the NA FM Band) Oh, 24 to 28 AWG lacquered wire.
6. Some miscellaneous parts like an antenna or antenna connection, a tiny box to put it all in, and some jacks that your DVM leads will insert into.

Here is the schematic diagram:

Using a digital multimeter, as opposed to an analogue me-



ter has a few advantages in this circuit.

First, the impedance of a DVM is very high, around 10M Ω per volt on most meters. This will not shunt or load down the tank circuit. Second, compared to an analogue meter, very slight differences in signal strength can be more easily observed. An third, a digital meter will have better linearity responding well to both weak and stronger signals.

All you want to see is the numbers... the higher the number, the more signal strength. Just remember a few basic rules. Keep the distance and power out the same for all your experiments... and turn off all your APRS trackers and digipeaters as they will want to add their 2-cents worth to your measurements.

If you have it in a hand-held configuration, you can "see" lobes, minimum and maximum RF fields as you walk around your test antenna.

Oh... and then put a set of crystal ear plugs in place of your DVM and you might just hear the nearest AM broadcast station... well, until they all go digital.

Enjoy!

SULLIVAN COMMUNITY HALL

6306 152ND ST. SURREY

SUNDAY AUGUST 21, 2011

10 AM -1 PM (9 AM SETUP FOR VENDORS)

AMATEUR RADIO SWAP MEET

**Sell from an indoor table or
from your vehicle in the parking lot.**

Buying and selling of used and new amateur radio items and electronics, with commercial exhibits, RAC table, and QSL bureau. Door prizes and raffle prizes total value \$1000. Raffle* 1st prize is a \$500 gift certificate for use at any Fairmont Hotel (Empress, Whistler, Banff, Vancouver etc.) 2nd prize is a KOBO ebook reader; 3rd prize is a \$150 gift certificate for the KEG Restaurant.

Food and refreshments available.

Prepayment will ensure your table or tailgate reservation.

\$25 for table or \$15 for tailgate spot (both include vendor's admission);
tailgaters bring your own table, chairs and cover if desired;
\$5 admission for buyers.

From Highway 1 at east end of Port Mann bridge, take the 152nd St. exit and proceed south to 1/2 block past 64th Ave. From the US border, take Pacific crossing onto 176th St (Pacific Hwy) and proceed north to 64th Ave. then turn west to destination at 152nd St.

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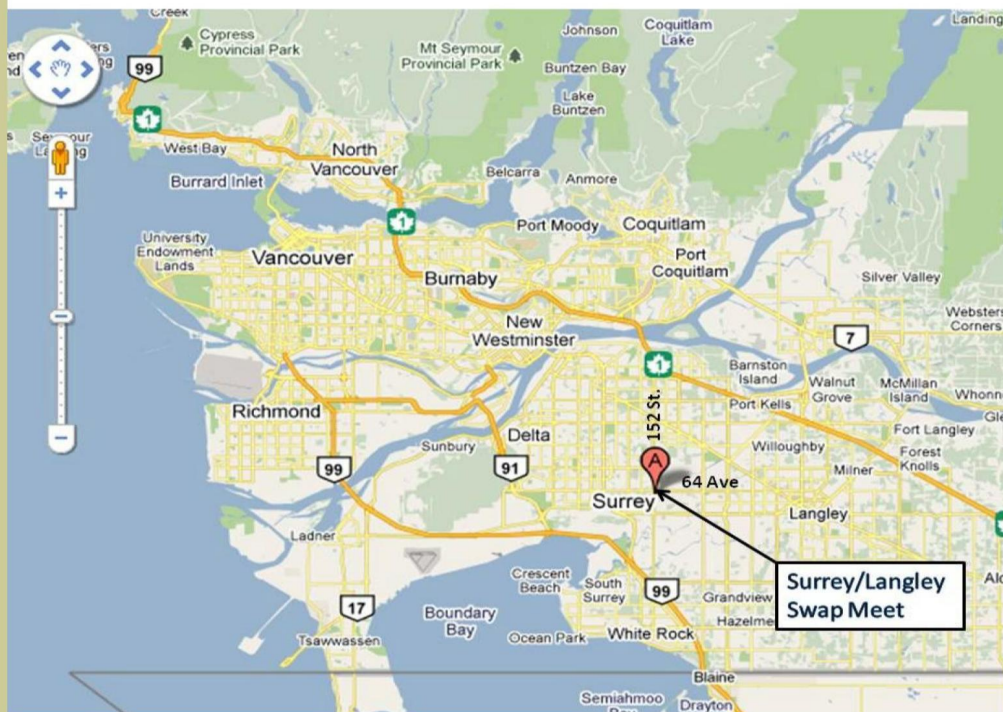
FOR MORE
INFORMATION OR
TO RESERVE YOUR
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contact

Bill Little VA7ZBL

604-533-2181

ychingola@gmail.com



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Snapshot

Field Day 2011



LEFT: Rod Salem VE7AYL and the BC Ambulance Service Integrated Command & Communications Unit

Lots of additional photos are available on our [web album](#)

Photos shown courtesy of Hiu VE7YXG, Anton VE7SSD and John VE7TI.



Photos of SARC-SEPAR-LARA Field Day 2011

Lots of additional photos are available on our [web album](#)

Photos shown courtesy of Hiu VE7YXG, Anton VE7SSD and John VE7TI.



SARC President's Comments

John Brodie VA7XB



Flea Market/Swap Meet - August 21st

It's coming up soon folks! The flea market is our main fund-raising effort of the year, so we need you to promote the event, get the word out to your friends, come as a volunteer to assist with the many tasks, and sell those raffle tickets. If you have sold all of yours and need more tickets, please contact Bill Little (604-533-2181) or me (604-591-1825). All monies and ticket stubs must be in no later than August 20th, so please do not go away on vacation without returning them. These tickets should not be difficult to sell ... the prizes have been selected to appeal to hams and non-hams alike. \$2 buys you one chance to win first prize of a \$500 gift certificate to any Fairmont Hotel (Whistler, Empress, Banff, etc.) or second prize of a Kobo ebook reader, or third prize of a \$150 gift certificate to KEG Restaurant. Although 2500 tickets are available, it is unlikely that number will be sold, so your chances to win are quite favourable. Why not consider giving a \$20 book of 10 tickets to your loved one, or children or grandchildren as a gift. In addition to the raffle, there will be door prizes given away every hour of the event. The flea market is to be held at Sullivan Hall 6306 152nd St. Surrey from 10 am till 1 pm.

Also...as a volunteer at the flea market, you have the opportunity to sell your personal items at SARC's table. However, if you have many items to sell, you may wish to purchase an inside table (\$25) of your own or a "tailgate" spot (\$15) in the parking lot to sell direct from your vehicle. In either case, you must let Bill know at ychingola@gmail.com to reserve.

New SARC Website

Our new website should be up and running by the time you receive this edition of the Communicator or, if not, within the next few days. Our target "go live" date was August 1st but the delay is entirely my doing as I did not get payment in to the new web host before the long

weekend. Check it out at www.ve7sar.net - I think you will be amazed at what Susan VE7IIE, working in consultation with Hiu VE7YXG, has put together for us. We owe Susan a big "thankyou" for her professionalism, initiative and patience while working through various iterations. The website is our face to the outside world - so important that it reflect the things that SARC stands for and presents an inviting format to attract new members. So, if you have ideas for making it even better, please let your Exec know.

Next Meeting - Sept. 14th

The first meeting of the Fall is Sept. 14th. The meeting will be devoted to talking about the year ahead including the program for monthly meetings and what we would like to accomplish as a club. We need your input so that the things we do in the coming year will be of interest, allow you to get more from your hobby and contribute services to the community. Is there something special that you as a member wish we would do, can you point us to a speaker that has been a hit at other club meetings, or do you simply have some ideas for doing things better? We're going to put you to work as there are many tasks, big and small, from being responsible for meeting refreshments, to looking after maintenance of the beams and towers, and many others in between. If you have some special talent, training or skill that would steer you to a specific job, then don't fail to let it be known....we could use you. Also, we should have more details of an exciting new group within SARC, which we may call the "contesters group" or "proficient operators group" or something similar. Overseeing this group will be a couple of pros who will guide us to further levels of achievement. You will find an introduction to this in the FD Report elsewhere in the Communicator. Stay tuned for further details in September.

DOWN THE LOG...

SARC Monthly Meetings

2nd Wednesday (Sept-Jun)
1900 hrs local at PEP PREOC,
14275 96th Avenue, Surrey, BC

Weekly Club Breakfast

Friday at 0830 local
ABC Country Restaurant located
at 600 - 7380 King George Blvd.
Surrey

SARC Net

Tuesday at 2000 local
on 147.360 MHz (+) Tone=110.9

SEPARS Net

Tuesday at 19:30 local
on 147.360 MHz (+) Tone=110.9

Announcements & News

Next SARC Meeting
Wed. Sept 14th 7pm @ PREOC
Planning for 2011-2012

SEPARS Monthly Workshop
Third Thursday, 7 to 9:30pm
Rm. 214, 13569 76th Ave.

SARC Ham Swap Meet

August 21st at Sullivan Hall,
details [page 9](#).
Contact [John VA7XB](#)

On the Web ve7sar.net

Between newsletters, watch your e-mail for announcements of events, monthly meetings and training opportunities. These announcements may also be found on our web page.



SARC hosts an Amateur Radio net each Tuesday evening at 8 PM. Please tune in to the VE7RSC repeater at 147.360 MHz (+600 KHz) Tone=110.9, also accessible

on IRLP node 1980 and Echolink node 496228. On UHF we operate a repeater on 443.775MHz (+5Mhz) Tone=110.9 and IRPL node 1463. Coming soon, a repeater at 224.000MHz (-1.6MHz).

VIA THE WEB

www.ve7sar.net

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